

# Lower Duchesne Wetlands Project

## Questions & Answers

### MOSQUITOES AND WEST NILE VIRUS

**Q:** Will the Lower Duchesne Wetlands Project (LDWP) increase the risk of mosquito-borne West Nile Virus?

**A:** No. In fact the risk may be reduced.

- All potential mosquito-breeding habitat within LDWP boundaries will be treated for mosquitoes in accordance with a Mosquito Control Plan (outlined in Appendix G of the Final Environmental Impact Statement - FEIS).

**Q:** What are the mosquito habitat “baseline conditions”?

**A:** The following are the “baseline conditions” - existing conditions and conditions that would prevail, if the project were NOT implemented:

- Within the project’s total of 4,087 acres, 2,082 acres (43%) currently provide mosquito-breeding habitat.
  - 421 acres (9%) provide primarily habitat for mosquito species capable of carrying West Nile Virus.
  - 1,619 acres (33%) provide primarily habitat for “nuisance mosquitoes” - not known to carry West Nile Virus in Utah.
  - 42 acres (1%) provide habitat for both mosquito types.
- Of the 2,082 acres of potential mosquito-breeding habitat, only 636 acres are privately owned and subject to mosquito control. The remaining 1,446 acres are Tribally owned and only sporadically treated.

**Q:** How will the LDWP affect mosquito-breeding habitat?

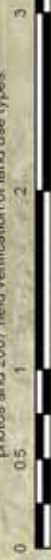
- A:**
- Within the total project area of 4,807 acres, the LDWP will result in an increase of 497 acres of potential mosquito-breeding habitat, all of which will be treated under the Mosquito Control Plan.
    - Of the 497 acres, slightly more than half (271 acres) will provide potential habitat for mosquito species capable of carrying West Nile Virus.
    - The balance (226 acres) would provide potential habitat for "nuisance mosquitoes".
  - Within the Uresk site, near Myton (see map on reverse side of this page), there will be a net increase of 124 acres of potential mosquito-breeding habitat (of which 68 acres would be of the West Nile Virus type and 56 acres would be of the “nuisance mosquitoes” type), all of which will be treated under the Mosquito Control Plan.
  - The Project will result in a less than 0.4 percent increase in mosquito-breeding habitat within the Uinta Basin.

**Q:** How and when will the Mosquito Control Plan be implemented?

- A:**
- All 2,579 acres of mosquito-breeding habitat will be treated, a significant increase over baseline conditions.
  - The Ute Tribe will implement the program, using federal funds, from project construction through project operation.



Map compiled from a variety of sources and spatial relationships between layers may vary. To be used for planning purposes only. Aerial photo September 2006. EIS analysis based on 1987 aerial photos and 2007 field verification of land use types.



### Land Ownership Within the Proposed Action Project Area

- Allotted Land
- Tribal
- Private
- Project Boundaries

